The Times-Dispatch
DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office.....918 E. Main Street
Manchester Bureau.....1102 Hull Street
Petersburg Bureau...109 N. Sycamore Street
Lynchburg Bureau.....215 Eighth Street

BY MAIL, POSTAGE PAID.	One Year.	Six Mos.	Three Mos.	One Mo
Daily with Sunday	$6.00	$3.00	$1.50	.50
Daily without Sunday	4.00	2.00	1.00	.35
Sunday edition only	2.00	1.00	.50	.25
Weekly (Wednesday)	1.00	.50	.25	...

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester and Petersburg—

	One Week
Daily with Sunday	14 cents
Daily without Sunday	10 cents
Sunday only	5 cents

Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 1910.

THE OLD STYLE AND THE NEW.

"Instructed by the world's greatest institutional moralist, we now perceive," says the New York Globe, "that retirement is a bad word and should be expelled from the dictionaries." This is said by our contemporary in the course of a "sarkastikal" editorial article about "The Sage on Wheels," the same being the Colonel, now breathing out threatenings and slaughter on his way through the West, from the tail-end of his private car at every railroad crossing, under vaulted ceiling or out in the open under God's blessed sunshine, wherever the people assemble together. He is telling them when to plant potatoes, how to brand cattle, how to live in the country and how to dwell in town, how many babies would be a fair allotment for the healthy American family, how important it is for the men to vote the Republican ticket, how to live and how to die, and what he is going to do with Jim Sherman and Barnes and Tim Woodruff and all the rest of the New York gang, excusing Griscom, who are trying to control the political affairs of that State. There was never anything exactly like it before, and "with every breath to Heaven we speed the ejaculation" that there may never be again. Moved neither by respect for the high office he has held nor by pity for the people, and disregarding the honorable precedents of the past, this eminent person goes swaggering through the land filling space with the words of his mouth and directing the people how they shall conduct their affairs. This "single instance" serves to bring out in striking and agreeable relief the self-respecting course of other Presidents of the United States after their retirement from the cares and responsibilities of office.

There was George Washington, who was President of the United States for two terms. After finishing his course as President he lived on his farm at Mount Vernon for three years, in the peace of God and with the love and affection of all his countrymen. In his farewell address to Congress, which is a model that might be followed by all statesmen and patriots, he said: "In withdrawing the tender of service which silence in my situation might imply I am influenced by no diminution of my zeal for your future interest, no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness; but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both."

It was in this same address, speaking of the "frightful despotism" of party that Washington gave utterance to the following wise thoughts: "The disorders and miseries which result gradually incline the minds of men to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual, and sooner or later the chief of some prevailing faction more able or more fortunate than his competitors turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation on the ruins of public liberty."

These farewell words were spoken after forty-five years' service to his countrymen as the "counsels of an old and affectionate friend," with the hope that "they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigue, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism."

Thomas Jefferson was President of the United States for two terms. He lived eighteen years after quitting the office, and upon retiring to private life, "took up the care of his plantation at Monticello. Here he ceased entirely from active political life, but by means of his facile pen still exerted an important influence on the Government, especially upon his successors and disciples, Madison and Monroe."

Upon Madison's withdrawal from public service in 1816, he retired to Montpelier, Virginia, "where, after a period of twenty years of quiet and leisure, he died, June 28 1836. In later life he took much interest in popular education, and devoted himself to promoting the interests of the University of Virginia. His last public service was in the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829."

At the close of his second term in 1824, Monroe retired to private life, residing in Virginia and New York, where he died. In the year preceding his death, he served as a member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention, this being his last public service.

On completing his second term as President, Andrew Jackson published a farewell address, and retired to the Hermitage, as his home near Nashville was called, where he passed the remainder of his life—nine years—always, however, taking a deep interest in public affairs.

Other Presidents of the United States, grateful for the honors conferred upon them by the people of the country, have lived for years after their retirement with decent respect for themselves and for the high office they had filled, and never until the Colonel came did one of their number forget himself so far as to become the centre of every conspiracy against orderly government and the manipulator of party movements for the benefit of personal hangers-on, or possibly—no one seems to know—for his own promotion.

Washington fought as many battles as Roosevelt and so did Jackson. Neither of them ever "put on the gloves" with Mike Donovan, but both of them made many as desperate a charge as that immortal spurt up Kettle Hill. Both of them built wisely and well, and for all time, as they thought. Jefferson and Madison and Monroe also formulated great policies that abide to this day; but none of these three punished the people with exudations of their personal greatness, their individual courage, their divine mission to regulate the universe. So far as the records of their poky old times show not one of them ever said "bully!" or "By George!" or roped a cow, or shot an elephant, or found it necessary to vociferate that he stood "squarely and uncompromisingly for clean, decent, honest politics." Their appeals were invariably made to reason not to fear, and none got down into the sweat and smell of the political arena to swear any oath like this: "While I hope there will be enough good sense to prevent any one opposing the principles for which I shall stand, yet if they do oppose them, then it is their own affair, and so far as I am concerned, the issue shall be absolutely clean-cut." That sounds terrible. It is the sort of punk, however, that Washington would catalogue under the head of "the impostures of pretended patriotism."

THE "ISSUE" IN NEW YORK.

Says the New York Tribune:

"Senator Depew returns in good time. As a candidate for United States Senator he will welcome the opportunity to take an active part in the discussion of the issue now before the Republicans of the State."

Senator Depew will probably not regard this as very much of a joke; but we wish the Tribune would tell us frankly what is the issue in New York. We have not been able to make it out at this distance. Is Roosevelt the "issue"? Hasn't New York had enough of him and his ways? Why should he, with all his honors, get down into the political pit? Suppose he should die, and Heaven spare his life for many years so that he may have time to repent! would the Republican party in New York go out of business? Ought it not, in fact, to cease from troubling? Why should it lag superfluous on the stage, a sectional party, a corrupt and corrupting party, a party of violent men and measures, of loud professions and empty deeds?

But we are getting away from the text: What is the "issue" in New York?

A POLITICAL KINDERGARTEN.

Elsewhere in this paper a correspondent expresses himself vigorously against the proposed amendments to the Constitution of Virginia: "In regard to keeping men in public offices two or three terms in order for them to qualify themselves to discharge their office duties, as a certain member of the Legislature says, then 'I suggest to the Legislature to propose that the State establish a political kindergarten school for political aspirants.' A man accepting a political office should be eminent for his abilities and not expect the public to educate him from mediocrity; and the man who is without ability in the start for public office is certainly a deception."

It seems to us that there is much merit in this view. Any man of ordinary business ability, we think, could take up the duties of the treasurer or commissioner of the revenue and perform them satisfactorily. Some people seem to regard the office of treasurer as a sort of one-man-secret-society in which the candidate must go through ten or fifteen degrees in order to amount to anything. We fail to see why, after a reasonable time, any practical man should not be familiar with the workings and the duties of that office.

Who, for instance, would countenance the argument that the Governor ought to serve three terms because it took one or two terms to make him fully acquainted with his office and its duties? Such a contention would be dismissed as absurd. We may well ask, then, what is this profound erudition which a treasurer or commissioner of revenue is supposed to have gained in a single term that makes it almost imperative that he shall continue in office?

It is all quite true that some treasurers at the close of the two terms allowed them by law have served so efficiently that it seems a hardship not to allow them to be eligible for another term. Yet these cases appear to be not over numerous, and the consideration in such instances is not of such weight that it can balance the reason that by too long a period of office holding the office-holder vests himself with prestige and power that is undemocratic and unjust to other good men who are seeking the office which he holds. The perpetuation of a man in office tends, in the majority of cases, to enable him to build up a personal machine which will be a material bar to the free expression of the will of the people in elections.

The clause in the Constitution limiting the term of office of treasurers was a compromise in the Constitutional Convention between the opposing views that the term should be limited and that it should be unlimited. The result of this compromise was reasonable and fair, and ought to be allowed to remain in the organic law of Virginia. It was realized that the office of commissioner of the revenue could be used more dangerously against the public good—"the weakest point in our whole system," as Senator Keezell put it—and for this reason the service of these officers was limited to one term.

But, as our correspondent remarks, "a man accepting political office should be eminent for his abilities." Much lies in that suggestion. If a good man be selected at the outstart, there will be less talk about the necessity for several terms, because it took so long to get him qualified. It is the inefficient man who has such a hard time with his office.

Virginia has no need of a "political kindergarten." The Constitutional Convention wisely inserted the present proviso limiting the term of treasurers and commissioners of the revenue, thereby establishing a safeguard against misfeasance in office and a guarantee that within a reasonable period the principle of rotation in office should apply.

A QUESTION OF PROPRIETY.

After thinking it over, the New York Times has reached the conclusion that Mr. Taft's letter to Griscom about Sherman, Roosevelt and the temporary chairmanship of the Republican convention to be held at Saratoga, was not "quite in consonance with the dignity of the office of the President." The Times admits "that Mr. Taft's feelings and conduct toward Mr. Roosevelt should be explained to those interested in them was, in a way, inevitable;" but it holds "that they should be made the subject of a public letter was neither unavoidable nor altogether pleasant." The Times adds: "The gentlemen who seem dependent on Mr. Roosevelt's co-operation may see no violation of propriety in it;" but "others who regard the Presidential office as a National possession and the dignity of its incumbent as important to all citizens are justified in a different view." On its face that seems to be a very sincere and just criticism of the President; indeed, it conforms largely to Mr. Taft's own view as expressed in the very letter which the Times makes the subject of its animadversion. Writing to Griscom, Mr. Taft said: "I have steadily refused to admit the propriety or necessity of the President's replying to newspaper statements which are not based on any act or authorized word of his and have no sponsor. I am entirely willing, however, to reply categorically to your telegram," etc., etc.

We are sorry that Mr. Taft made any explanation to Griscom about this matter, and we regret that he should think it necessary to reply at any time to "newspaper statements which are not based on any act or authorized word of his;" but we regret far more that the Times, and other newspapers which plead against impropriety on the part of the President, should care so little for propriety on their own part. Holding as they do "the Presidential office as a National possession, and the dignity of its incumbent as important to all citizens," it would seem that they should refrain from all attempts to place the President before the public in a false light in the hope, apparently, that their misrepresentations of him would be unchallenged because of the national character of his office and the dignity becoming its incumbent. Having baited him, it does not lie in the mouth of the newspapers engaged in such unworthy work to preach homilies to him because of his disregard of the proprieties.

What is he to do? It is clear that he was outrageously misrepresented by the newspapers in the Sherman-Roosevelt matter, that his position was misstated, that his alleged desertion of Roosevelt was being used to discredit his Administration, to cripple his proper work "as a National possession," to strengthen his enemies, and this was done by the newspapers, the Times itself being one of the chief offenders, and now we are told that these journalistic slanders, published on the housetops, should have been put to sleep in the cellar, that what had been done openly and defiantly by the press should have been undone "quietly" by the President, so that it "would have left a more agreeable impression."

The Times will recollect that only a day or so before Mr. Taft violated his own sense of propriety by writing the letter to Griscom, it printed a very readable and apparently well-authenticated story about how Mr. Roosevelt had sent an "ultimatum" to Mr. Taft touching this very Sherman matter, which Mr. Roosevelt described as "a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end." Of course, Mr. Roosevelt saying it was so did not make it so; but after-discovered evidence has made it very plain that there was no truth in it.

Mr. Taft agrees with the Times that it is neither proper nor necessary for the President to reply to newspaper statements, and so do we; but is it not true that if the newspapers would keep a more careful watch on their own conduct they would not have so much cause for upbraiding the conduct of others; if they would observe the proprieties themselves they could with better face protest against impropriety in others? The Times will recollect the legal maxim that "he who comes into equity must come with clean hands."

SMITH AND BROWN.

What will Hoke Smith do with Georgia when he resumes the direction of its affairs? There appears to be a good deal of doubt in the mind of the outside public, Mr. Smith's former administration not having been so brilliantly successful in the conservation of the resources of that great State as its well-wishers everywhere desired. The New York Times, which has been keeping tab on him and his "ornery" successor, is of opinion that his election "will afford ground for comparison and contrast with that of his successful predecessor," and for the purpose of affording a basis for this comparison in a few brief strokes it sketches Georgia as she was under Smith and under Brown, as follows:

"While Smith was Governor before Brown the words 'corporation' and 'railroads' were to him as red rags to a bull. He was the great disfranchiser, the fomenter of race prejudice, the champion of mob law, the foe of prosperous industry, a leader of the people of the type which the South has been learning to ostracize. When Brown became Governor-elect the tax returns from Georgia's 146 counties rose. They rose twenty millions in 1909 over 1908, and $41,000,000 in 1910 over 1909. The clouds of industrial depression rolled away. The sun of order and prosperity shone in."

"Little Joe" Brown has at least set a mighty good copy for the great big man who went before and who is to follow after him. We do not think that Mr. Smith can do so well; but, for the sake of Georgia, we wish him mighty well. After two years, it may be that the people of Georgia will be again clothed and in their right mind, and "Little Joe" will have another chance.

EQUAL TO THIRTY REGIMENTS.

If the auto-gun, which is said to be backed by John Hays Hammond, is what is claimed for it, Congress ought to make all possible haste to buy it. One gun that would shoot 2,000,000 times the hour and that could take the place of thirty regiments of soldiers is worth all that the Hammonds are said to want for it. We have all been protesting at times against the steadily increasing cost of our military establishment, and it looks as if this auto-gun is exactly the thing we have been looking for. One gun that could be operated by two men and that would do more destructive work than thirty regiments would make it possible for an army of not more than a thousand men to defend the United States from all domestic and foreign enemies.

The Army budget for the present year calls for $95,935,862. We should think that an economic Congress would jump at the chance of saving money by the purchase of this deadly weapon. As for John Hays Hammond's interest in this particular gun, he did not seem to know when he was asked by the Sun Wednesday night. He was perfectly frank in saying that his son is interested in some gun which he thinks will revolutionize warfare, and he may have let him in on it, but he is not certain that this is the gun. It is hoped that it is, and that when he gets ready to manufacture it he will establish his gun-making plant in Richmond.

In the meantime, it would be fair not to charge Mr. Taft with any interest in the machine or in what his friend Hammond does with it. If the gun will do what is claimed for it, why would it not be a good thing for the Government to buy it and constitute the Colonel the Standing Army of the United States? Garfield could run the auto and Pinchot could operate the gun, and the Colonel could give the command "Fire!"

SELF-MADE STUDENTS.

Within a month the colleges of Virginia will open their gates to a small army of young men. A large proportion of these will be what some one has called "remittance men"—that is, men who rely on their parents or relatives for the money with which to go through college. Many of these men are hard workers and become efficient scholars, but it cannot be said of them that they deserve the credit that must be awarded to the men who are "working their way through" college; for these have to bear the difficult burden of doing their college work and making a livelihood at the same time.

In Virginia as well as throughout the United States, young men are beginning to realize more and more that a capable man who is not afraid to work can make his way through college. In all our colleges there are men who are sending themselves to college. Some make enough money in vacation to carry them through the year, while others toil through vacation and college term to make both ends meet.

The ways in which these students make their money are almost without number. Some act as janitors, doing the most menial tasks, some act as clerks in stores and hotels, some drive wagons, some work in railroad offices, some tutor less industrious students, some are agents for business concerns—in fact, the list of things that these young men do would well-nigh fill a book.

It is to their lasting credit that self-made students, as a rule, stand as well as if not better than other classes of men in college. With unflagging zeal, untired seemingly by the tasks which supply them their means, they set about their college work in such a way as to hold excellent rank, taking a prominent part in every phase of college life. It is largely from this class of students that the professors nominate their assistants and instructors. They do so, not out of any spirit of charity, but because they know by experience of the dependable worth of these men, their ambitious aims, their honest devotion to scholarship. Instructors and assistants in many cases ascend in the academic scale and so it comes about that many of the most efficient professors in our educational institutions to-day are men who worked their way through college.

In fact, if a census could be taken of the great Americans who have been college-bred, the proportion of them who were self-made would furnish an illuminating commentary on the worth of those who were their own financiers.

There are many opportunities for self-help in our colleges. Young men who despair of a college education, because they have no funds, would do well to investigate thoroughly the conditions at the different institutions before they abandon their ambition. Sometimes, the work is of the quality that calls for the putting aside of pride, but the really ambitious man soon sees how small is the value of pride as compared with that of a college education.

A large number of high school graduates fail to go any further for the reason that they have no money. They, especially, ought to look into the possibilities of working their way through, for it seems deplorable that with such excellent training for college, they should cease their education already so well begun.

Many men go to college a year and then teach a year or more to get back for another year so as to finish their course. Some men are well on the road to thirty before they finish their education, but when they do receive their degrees they are equipped for the best work.

Out of the bare and lonely rooms of self-made students have gone men who in after-life reflected much honor and distinction upon their colleges. They combined the theoretical with a saving sense of the practical; and their degrees represented what many degrees do not represent—years of real work—years that are an unfading credit to the men who worked their way through.

It looks as if what a Confederate veteran used to call "the reunion of the sponsors" is a thing of the past.

Now that the State Fair is looking for an aviator, why should not some member of the University of Virginia Aero Club apply?

The Norfolk Landmark says: "That new cuss-word would also be appreciated by Congressman Maynard." But the man who originally wished for it wanted to use it over a machine that had gone to smash. Eh?

Yet the esteemed Fredericksburg Star will agree with us that it is the duty of the newspapers to keep a sharp lookout on public men and public questions, not in a dictatorial spirit; but for the purpose of warning a too confiding public against the acceptance of every nostrum that is commended to them by those who are in public place.

A careful study of the automobile cartoon in The News-Leader Wednesday shows that the people who were killed in the automobile in the distance would have escaped injury if they had stayed on the right side of the road. "Keep to the right!"

The Orange Observer is always trying to make its "furrin'" readers hungry or thirsty. It says:

"Come down to Old Orange if you want to taste waffles that have class to them. Such as only the Virginia colored 'mammies' know how to make. We are very fond of this particular kind of food, and know whereof we speak."

Then come to Richmond and get a real waffle.

The Orange Observer observes:

"The beautiful goldenrod is now waving its graceful plumes in almost every field around Orange."

How about the mint?

The Page News tells us that "At this term of Court Judge Haas called in the tax collectors and gave them a lecture on the import of their oath which requires them to levy on personal property and timber, etc., rent the property and exhaust every other possible resource before the taxes are returned delinquent. A literal compliance with the provision in the oath is required, said His Honor." O, just and learned judge!

Buttermilk is the subject of editorial comment by the Orange Observer, which says:

"And now a man in Texas proposes a compulsory buttermilk plank in the platform as the only proper solution of the national liquor question. He advocates the establishing of buttermilk dispensaries in all parts of the country, for the sale of this most healthful, harmless drink, and from which a good revenue may be derived. Orange certainly must have one, if they are ever started."

Is it that bad in dry Orange?

The Charlottesville Progress says:

"A few months ago, a county treasurer in Virginia, charged with being short in his accounts something like $25,000, committed suicide. He had been a trusted officer for nearly thirty years—so thoroughly trusted, indeed, that an examination of his books, although required by law, would have been considered a personal reflection. It is significant that no evidence of any shortage was discovered until after he had been in office over eight years. The people of Virginia will make a serious blunder if they do not vote overwhelmingly against the amendment to the Constitution allowing indefinite tenure of office to county and city treasurers. An office-holding trust, like all other trusts, destroys individual opportunities and proves not infrequently a very expensive incubus upon a community."

The office-holders' amendments, we repeat, are on the road to destruction.

Barnes appears to be the only one of the Old Guard in New York who has any fight left in him; the others are talking about "compromise." Well may they pray for just one hour of old Tom Platt! the man who made Roosevelt Vice-President.

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

Glittering Generalities.

The author of the expression, "glittering generalities," was Rufus Choate. It occurs in his letter (1856) to the Maine Whig Committee, where he speaks of "The glittering and sounding generalities of natural right which make up the Declaration of Independence."

First Settlement, Etc.

Please answer the following:

1. When and where was the first settlement made in the United States?
2. Where was the first child of English parents born in America and what was her name? R. A. P

1. St. Augustine, Fla.
2. Virginia Dare, at Roanoke Island.

Early Executive.

Please tell me who was the Executive of the United States between the years 1787 and 1789.

The United States had no Federal administration or Executive until March 4, 1789, when the Constitution came into force, though the Continental Congress, on September 9, 1776, resolved "that in all Continental commissions where heretofore the words 'United Colonies' had been used, the style shall be altered for the future to United States." The country was then represented by the several Continental Congresses, of which, successively, there were fourteen in all, the fourteenth and last adjourning 21st October, 1788. The last four Congresses met at New York, and were presided over by Richard H. Lee, of Virginia (1785); by John Hancock, of Massachusetts (1785-86); by Arthur St. Clair, of Pennsylvania (1787), and by Cyrus Griffin, of Virginia (1788). These severally may be spoken of as the Executives of the United States for the time being.

Libby Prison.

Kindly let me know:

1. Date of escape of Federal prisoners from Libby Prison?
2. How many escaped?
3. Number recaptured?
4. Is old Libby still standing in Chicago? CITIZEN.

1. February 9, 1864.
2. 109.
3. 48.
4. We understand that it is.

DEPRIVED OF DUCAL AND PRINCELY TITLE

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

ANOTHER name vanishes from the Almanach de Gotha, through the deprival of Prosper of Arenberg of his ducal and princely title, of his historic name, of his rights and prerogatives as a member of one of the mediatized, or formerly petty sovereign, houses of Europe, and through his transformation into an ordinary bourgeois of the name of Prosper Blanden. He is the only brother of the head of the family, who fortunately, however, has two sturdy boys to inherit his vast possessions in Germany and in Belgium, and his many dignities, which include, besides the dukedom of Arenberg, the dukedoms of the Aerschot, of Croy and of Meppen, the principality of Recklinghausen, etc.

But while losing his rights as a mediatized prince, Prosper d'Arenberg does not acquire those of an ordinary German citizen. In fact, his status is something very much akin to that of a convict on ticket-of-leave; for, after having been condemned by one court-martial to death, by another to fifteen years' penal servitude, by a third to twenty years' imprisonment, and pronounced irresponsible by a fourth and committed as crazy to an asylum for the insane, he has now been discharged as cured.

The German government will not hear, however, of his being turned loose upon the community—at any rate in Germany—for he has been allowed his freedom only on the condition that he renounces his name, his titles and his rights as a prince of the Arenberg family; that he leaves Germany forever, and that he takes up his permanent residence on a large ranch which has been purchased for him in a very remote portion of the Argentine Republic, where he is to live under the care of a guardian appointed by his family and by the German courts, who will control his monetary supplies, and who is qualified by the German courts, as well as by the ducal house of Arenberg, to cause the ex-prince to be put back under restraint as a criminal lunatic and confined as such in Argentina or conveyed back to some sanatorium in Germany, in the event of his attempting to leave the ranch or of his misconduct or insubordination.

It remains to be seen whether the Argentine authorities, which have recently been inaugurating laws analogous to those of the United States for the exclusion of undesirable aliens, will allow the entry of a man who has been three times convicted as a murderer, and who was ultimately pronounced to be a homicidal maniac.

It is difficult to conceive anything more shocking than the murder which the ex-Prince Prosper Arenberg has to his record. Always a species of ne'er-do-well, he had been sent out to the colonies on account of the numerous scrapes in which he had become involved at home, and was placed in command of a district of German Southwest Africa. On arriving there he associated himself with a half-caste petty official of the name of Cain, ultimately fell in love with the latter's very comely half-caste wife, and on her resisting his advances, seems to have maltreated her, and when the husband sought to interfere, he arrested the latter on the charge of having attempted his life.

First of all, after having bound Cain, he tortured him in a manner that will not bear description and then expressed his intention of conveying him for trial to Windhoek, the capital of the colony. Scarcely had the party started for their destination than the prince told Cain that he would let him go, and on the man taking advantage of the permission to quit the procession the prince ordered one of the guards to shoot him for attempting to escape. The soldier shot Cain in the leg. The prince thereupon cursed the soldier, drew his own revolver and shot the prostrate man in the head. The shot did not prove fatal, and then the prince caused one of the soldiers to drive his bayonet through Cain's back at a point which he indicated. As Cain still showed signs of life, the prince seized the ramrod from the gun of one of the soldiers and thrust it through the wound in the dying man's head into the brain, in order to hasten the end. This is not a mere fanciful tale. It was brought out at four different court-martials and was discussed in all its horrible details in the Reichstag. It was witnessed by some subordinate white German soldiers, who, when they attempted to interfere, were threatened with being shot for mutiny by the prince.

The only excuse that could be found for the prince was that he had always been more or less mentally unbalanced, a degenerate, and that the climate of Southwest Africa, dissipation, drink, and the absence of all those restraints imposed by law and civilization at home, had completed the wreck of his mind. It was shown that in his teens he found pleasure in capturing cats and dogs, and in cutting off their feet and tails and blinding them; while if he was transferred from the division of the Guards in which he had previously held a commission, to the colonial forces, it was because he had been repeatedly punished for drunkenness and for the maltreatment of the men under his command.

This, then, is the precious individual, thirty-five years of age, to whom the Argentine Republic is expected to offer a permanent home, and if it admits him, its officials will certainly experience difficulty in closing the doors to any other undesirable aliens, no matter how evil their record.

The Arenbergs represent a branch of the house of De Ligne, and although constituting the younger line, is far and away the most important, since the senior line, who are known as Princes of Ligne, are not mediatized, and are merely Belgian nobles. The Arenbergs, on the other hand, are every one of them by birth, not merely Princes and Princesses, but Dukes and Duchesses of Arenberg, this being, so far as I am aware, the only mediatized house where all the members have a ducal title from their very cradle. This ducal title dates from the beginning of the seventeenth century, when it was conferred by the Emperor of Germany, in behalf of the Holy Roman Empire.

Among their titles is that of Court de la Marck, and their ancestors include that Robert de la Marck whose name is familiar to all the readers of the novels of Sir Walter Scott. At the close of the eighteenth century one of the sons of the then Duke of Arenberg, a Count de la Marck, was the friend of Mirabeau, and acted as the go-between in the relations of that celebrated statesman with Queen Marie Antoinette.

Another ancestor of the Dukes and Princes of Arenberg was that famous Flemish patriot, Count Egmont, whose tragic fate has furnished the theme of one of Goethe's most stirring dramas, and resulted in the insurrection which culminated in the emancipation of the Netherlands from Spanish thraldom. Egmont occupied the very palace still owned by the Arenbergs at Brussels, and the very trees in the gardens still exist, under the shade of which the historic interview between the Count and the Prince of Orange took place. The Spanish Duke of Alba was approaching with his army. The Prince of Orange had resolved to flee, abandoning his possessions. Egmont, in spite of the prince's entreaties, determined to remain, hoping thereby to prevent the confiscation of his palace and its art treasures. "Adieu, Prince sans terre!" was the count's farewell to the Prince of Orange. "Adieu, Comte sans tete!" was the ominous rejoinder of the prince. And his prediction was fulfilled; for the count lost his head on the square in front of his palace as the most illustrious of all the victims of the cruel Spanish Duke of Alba.

Let me add in conclusion that whereas the head of the family is Duke Engelbert, who is a member of the German Reichstag, the head of the French line is Duke Augustus, who makes his home in Paris, where he is president of the Suez Canal Company, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, also of the Institute of France and the president of the French Jockey Club, as well as one of the conspicuous figures on the French turf.

Voice of the People

Communications must not contain more than 300 words.
When this limit is exceeded letters will be returned.
No anonymous communications will be accepted.
A stamped envelope, with the writer's address, must accompany every communication.

The Constitutional Amendments.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I am one probably of thousands of The Times-Dispatch readers who are glad to see your and other newspapers are interesting yourselves to have the proposed constitutional amendments severely defeated at the November election. There is not any demand at all for proposed changes in the Constitution, and, as you well say, it is only the officer-holders who object to the present law, viz., requiring rotation in office of commissioners of the revenue, collectors, treasurers, etc., and frequent rotation in public offices is one of the best features of a Republican-Democratic government, and of which the changes in our officers are too far apart, and the proposed changes are apparently to help certain officers to perpetuate themselves in public office. The present Constitution had not been in effect five days before many of our officers all over the State and a goodly number in Richmond were trying to defeat the abolition of the free pass system, and it was said some of the officers that helped frame the Constitution were among the lot, but with all their strenuous efforts they failed. It is well known that the legislators do scarcely anything for the first twenty days of a session, and if the sessions were extended to ninety days the same old habit would prevail.

In regard to keeping men in public offices two or three terms in order for them to qualify themselves to discharge their office duties, as a certain member of the Legislature says, then I suggest to the legislator to propose that the State establish a political kindergarten school for political aspirants. A man accepting a political office should be eminent for his abilities and not expect the public to educate him from mediocrity, and the man who is without ability in the start for public office is certainly a deception.

HENRY H.

August 24.